

Atty. Docket No. EDC-001 (2144/4)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Laracey et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/602,697

GROUP NO.: 3624

FILING DATE: June 24, 2000

EXAMINER: Subramanian, N.

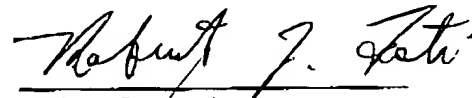
TITLE: ELECTRONIC BILL PRESENTMENT AND PAYMENT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is responsive to the Office action mailed on December 31, 2002. The action requires election of one of three claim groups, Groups I-III. Claims 1-24 are pending in this application.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, which corresponds to pending claims 1-11. Applicants submit that a search and examination of all claims (i.e., claims 1-24) would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner. Section 803 of the MPEP indicates that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine the entire application on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicants submit that a search of any of the three Groups would produce pertinent art, if any, to each of the Groups, and thus the restriction requirement should be withdrawn and all pending claims searched and examined.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Tosti
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 35,393

Date: January 29, 2003
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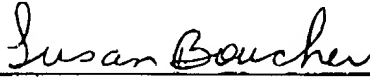
PATENT
Attorney Docket No. EDC-001
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TITLE: ELECTRONIC BILL PRESENTMENT AND PAYMENT

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 29th day of January, 2003.



Susan Boucher

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith:

- This Certificate of First Class Mailing Per 37 C.F.R. 1.8 (1 pg.);
- Transmittal Form (1 pg.);
- Response to Restriction Requirement (1 pg.); and
- A Return-Receipt Postcard.

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TRANSMITTAL
FORM

Application Serial Number	09/602
Filing Date	June 24, 2000
First Named Inventor	Laracey
Group Art Unit	3624
Examiner Name	Subramanian
Attorney Docket No.	EDC-001
Patent No.	Not applicable
Issue Date	Not applicable

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Restriction Requirement <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets <u> </u>] <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Sequence Listing submission <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy/CD <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1553) <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers) <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> CD(s) for large table or computer program <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment After Allowance <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certificate of Correction <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Correction (in duplicate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
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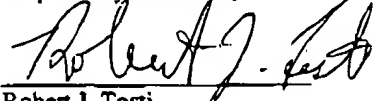
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Name of Applicant: Laracey et al.
 Intf. or Serial Number: 09/602,697
 Atty: RJTosti/Slee/JELehrere SB
 Date: January 29, 2003
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